

## CHELAN SEMINAR IDEAS

### Unfunded Mandates, No Man's Land

1. Small District Concerns:
  - Keeping up with the big boys (training and equipment)
  - Sales taxes
  - No man's land issues
  - Fire inspections
  - State audits
2. Impact from state highways

### Fire Service Training

1. Maintain 086 account for firefighter training
  - Increase dollars and hours that are reimbursable
  - Strengthen the policy board for maintaining training funding
  - Keeping the state from taking dedicated funding
  - Where is the \$30,000 per region for fire service?
2. Dedicated regional money reinstated per region \$30,000 (regional council gets \$)
  - Training
  - Investigation
  - Fire and life safety
3. State budget deficit
4. Support North Bend?

### Regional Fire Authorities

1. Include all language from fire district RCW into RFA RCW
2. RFA to be not contiguous (no man's land)
3. RFA to continue to receive fees to school districts enrollment
4. Allow RFA to dissolve fire district
5. Equal taxes (sales/property/impact fees)
6. Incentive to include no man's land into RFA
7. Tax lid for city needs to be addressed

### Impact Fees for Fire Districts

1. Expand fees to entire district
2. Resubmit HB 1080/Senate version (no changes)

3. Require counties to have capital facilities plan for fire and EMS

### Miscellaneous/GMA Annexation Issues

1. Cumulative Annexation = 60% of original boundary – full annexation required (clarification of measurements)
2. Covenants/Petitions
  - Current property owners – ref or vote

### Change Levy Requirements for Funding

1. EMS – Down to 50% + 1 Vote
  - Unions, State Chiefs, Volunteer association (combine and lobby as one)
  - Hospital districts, cities, counties
  - Fire service funding dropping due to economy
2. Utility Tax
3. Dedicated funding
4. Public safety sales tax & percentage towards EMS
5. How many EMS levies were run and how many passed with 50% or how many would have passed if 50% were in place?
  - What was the cost of all of them?

### LEOFF 2 Reform

1. Conduct a general meeting before January 1, 2010 to include: state board, state council, firefighter, policy, WFCA, WASPC, to:
  - Investigate post retirement medical coverage to age 65
  - Medical post retirement LEOFF 2
2. Ask LEOFF 2 to fund an actuarial study bridging the medical costs from retirement (53-65) for cities, counties, police and fire
3. VEBA accounts – bridge 53-65 medical costs, Central Pierce actuarial study, union did the study
4. Disability retirements non taxable change from 10% to 100%

### Recruit/Retain Volunteer Firefighters

1. Retirement benefit increases
  - Remove 25 year limit
  - Still volunteer after retirement
  - Increase retirement for additional years
2. Free license tabs/plates

- Increase recognition
3. Fishing/hunting license
  4. Benefits – Wage? – not considered a wage
  5. Age limit – 65? Increase age limits
  6. Support during training i.e. childcare
  7. Property tax credit
  8. Mentoring program
  9. Health and wellness extended to volunteers
  10. IRS relief
  11. Increase flexibility with training, practices
    - Regionalize training including EMS

### Sprinklers (Residential) Building Codes Local Authority

1. Adopt 2009 International Residential Code as written without exception
  - Both Houses resolution for sprinklers in fire codes
2. Educate commissioners and public/firefighter life safety
3. White paper on current sprinkler study for legislature
4. Opposition (contractors, building code council, water districts)
5. County can be more restrictive than state
6. Approach master builders sprinkler coalition
7. Life safety

### Miscellaneous Funding Issues

1. Eliminate super majority
  - EMS levies
  - Excess levies
  - Remove general election validation requirements
2. Unfunded mandates
  - NFPA/vertical standards
  - Training issues – live fire, EMT cert, FFI/30K region
3. WFCA support 911 Excise Fee (Operational money)